

I am opposed to this proposal. We as "Hams" must have some sort of expertise to function in emergency situations. Morse Code has historically been what separates us from the other services, and we have historically been an elite service. What will happen when power fails and the digital services fail with it, or the repeaters are down? Without a basic knowledge of Morse, we are no more than a glorified (?) family radio service. Please remember that the "hams" have paid a big price to obtain an increase in numbers, but numbers are not everything. Without minimum entrance standards, what will become of our service. Many persons already equate Amateur Radio with CB. Please do not make this a defacto statement.